

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEARINGS OFFICE**

### **Minutes of Meeting April 11, 2006**

The April 2006 meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Lynch in the Boards' office in Lacey, Washington. Present were Chair Bill Lynch and Board Member Kathleen Mix; Administrative Appeal Judges, Phyllis Macleod, and Cassandra Noble; Administrative Manager Robyn Bryant; Hearings Coordinator Judy Greear, and Secretary Sharon Ziegler. Minutes of the March meeting were read and approved.

Handouts were distributed for review for the month of March, which included the pollution, shoreline, forest practice, hydraulic, and environmental and land use appeals filed, a brief summary of all cases that have closed, and the Case Statistics Report.

#### **Appellate Update**

Chair Bill Lynch reported that the appellants in PCHB No. 03-155 Pat and Mary Burke and Bruce Coe v. Ecology and Swuak Valley Ranch v. Ecology asked the Court to dismiss the appeal. There were no new appellate appeals filed during the past month.

#### **Public Record Requests**

Board Member Kathleen Mix reported that the committee working on clarifying the policy and the retention schedule for public records met for the second time. Assignments were issued and every topic identified will be addressed as soon as possible.

#### **Agency Retreat**

Chair Lynch reported that an agency retreat is scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> and June 21<sup>st</sup>. The retreat will be held at the Organic Farm House on the Evergreen State College property. The retreat will offer an opportunity for the new members and staff to familiarize themselves with the agency. There will be an opportunity to review the Strategic Plan and the Mission Statement.

Ms. Mix suggested having someone speak about quality work products, making sure that each written opinion is a quality work product, and avoiding any mistakes. Ms. Mix suggested inviting Justice Mary Fairhurst to speak during the lunch hour.

**Financial Report**

Robyn Bryant reported that the agency's budget continues to show a surplus resulting from salaries and benefits designated for a vacant Board member's position that has since been filled.

Ms. Bryant reported that new computers as well as three new printers have been ordered and are being installed.

**Good of the Order**

The Governor's 2006 Leadership Conference is scheduled for May 24, 2006. Phyllis Macleod will attend for Chair Bill Lynch. Several staff are scheduled to attend an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) conference September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

A workload discussion and a review of the Hearings calendar were held.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Sharon H. Ziegler  
Secretary